Eastbridge Hospital of St. Thomas the Martyr, Canterbury

By the Rev. Canon Derek Ingram Hill, M.A., F.S.A.

EASTBRIDGE HOSPITAL

OF

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CANTERBURY

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The frontage of Eastbridge Hospital

INTRODUCTION

Early in the year 1969 I was invited by the Committee of the Canterbury Archaeological Society to write a small booklet entitled "The ancient Hospitals and Almshouses of Canterbury" and this duly appeared at the expense of the Society in Easter week that year. At the time some three thousand copies were printed and it was thought that it would take a long time for this edition to sell out. Thanks, however, to the vast stream of visitors that pour in and out of Eastbridge Hospital in the course of any given year, glad to take away a booklet dealing with that foundation and the others in the City of Canterbury, the whole edition has now been exhausted and since the Society that originally launched and financed the original book has now other publications in hand a second edition is out of the question . . . on grounds of rising costs of publication apart from anything else.

What would appear to be needed is a new booklet dealing with Eastbridge Hospital primarily. This is the book which is now issued with some new photographs taken by Mr. W. Entwistle which illustrate the two chapels of Eastbridge in their festal array, and a view taken down the river Stour showing the Hospital buildings on the East Bridge since the restoration of 1970. The photographs of the Undercroft and the exterior of the Hospital were taken by Mr. Ben May of Canterbury.

I have added a new section on the Masters of Eastbridge Hospital, using information in the Rev. Gordon Wilson's book "With the pilgrims to Canterbury" and the list of Masters given in William Somner's and Nicholas Batteley's "Antiquities of Canterbury", brought right up to date.

It is perhaps worth adding a note to the effect that all profits on this small book will go to the Master's Fund of Eastbridge Hospital which has borne the expense of this new publication.

CHAPTER I

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. THOMAS THE MARTYR UPON EASTBRIDGE

commonly called Eastbridge Hospital

St. Thomas was murdered in Canterbury Cathedral on December 29th, 1170, and buried at once in the Eastern Crypt; to his tomb pilgrimages began to be made almost immediately and this spontaneous outburst of devotion to the "holy blissful martyr" from all classes of society must have placed a considerable strain on the existing inns and resources of the religious foundations of the City, which exercised some form of hospitality, especially where provision for poor pilgrims was concerned. To help to meet this need a merchant named Edward FitzOdbold, who lived near St. Peter's Church, founded a hospice on the bridge in the high street c. 1190 and placed it under the patronage of St. Thomas himself. (There is a tradition that Ralph the first Master, who was in office at the end of the century, was a nephew of the martyr Archbishop.) About 1203 Archbishop Hubert Walter granted the tithes on certain Mills to Eastbridge, "being moved thereto by the poverty and necessitous condition of the Hospital", which suggests that the founder had not been able to endow it adequately (if at all), and about the same time the Hospital of St. Nicolas & St. Katherine nearby, which was also a recent foundation, was united with Eastbridge, the founder of that establishment, William Cockyn, leaving to the united foundations all his wealth. From now onwards property and endowments came in a steady stream all through the mediaeval period; these included the houses on either side the main block, the advowson of the church of St. Cosmas and St. Damian in the Blean, given in 1206 by Hamo de Crevecoeur, and the manor of Blean and Hoath Court, granted by Sir Thomas de Roos of Hamlake in 1359. To this day the Master of Eastbridge (who has always been a priest) is patron of the living and Lord of the Manor of Blean, and the revenues, which maintain the Hospital today, are still largely derived from the rental from the property in the main street, owned by the Master, Brothers and Sisters, and the farm lands at Blean. About 1342 Archbishop Stratford visited the Hospital to enquire into its condition since there seems to have been mismanagement (if not worse) on the part of one of the Masters. Stratford was almost a second founder describing the Hospital in his report as being "for the maintenance of poor pilgrims and other infirm persons resorting thither to remain until they are healed of their infirmities; for the poor, for persons going to Rome, for others coming to Canterbury and needing shelter, and for lying-in women". Stratford also gave the advowson of the Leper Hospital of St. Nicolas at Harbledown to Eastbridge, whose Master

was responsible for the appointment of a chaplain; he ordered that healthy pilgrims should only be entertained for one day, at a cost of not more than fourpence a day, and that twelve beds should be available for pilgrims, who were to be cared for by a woman of over forty—no doubt a good age at that time. He also secured for the Hospital the privilege of interring its dead in the Cathedral churchyard, and in the reign of Elizabeth I the Master (who was also one of the Prebendaries) Thomas Lawse resisted successfully an attempt to take this privilege away—needless to say it no longer exists. The Archbishop's reforms included a direction that the Master was to be assisted by a chantry priest at chapel services, and to secure this a chantry in the church of Bekesbourne, with its endowment of 10 marks p.a. and 24 acres of land, was transferred to the Hospital in 1363. It may well be at this time that the venerable chapel of Our Lady (St. Thomas' patroness) assumed its present appearance, with its mid-XIVth century windows in decorated style and the lower chantry chapel under the east end. The dwelling of the chantry priest near the Great Gate has vanished but the grant of the chantry bearing the seal of Archbishop Simon Theobald of Sudbury and the date 1375 is preserved in a glass case in the chantry; Sudbury augmented the salary of the priest to fifteen marks p.a., saying that ten marks was too small a sum to secure the services of a good and worthy priest.

Mrs. Clay in her invaluable book on Mediaeval Hospitals states that a XIVth century document calls the Hospital by the name of "the Holy Ghost". But it seems normally to have been called "St. Thomas on Eastbridge" and at that time the Master, Brothers and Sisters were responsible for the maintenance of the bridge itself, a responsibility which they only relinquished in the eighteenth century. A glance down the line of Masters shows that in the later Middle Ages and long after the Reformation the post was regarded as a nice piece of preferment, several relations of Archbishops like Kempe, Chicheley and Bourchier, holding the Mastership in the fifteenth century and doubtless deputing the daily work of overseeing the Hospital to the chantry priest or some other underling. In the century that followed the accession of Elizabeth I two Prebendaries of the Cathedral, two Deans, one Six Preacher, and two Archdeacons of Canterbury were numbered among the Masters, which did not prevent its history from being a somewhat chequered one at this time. Leland writing in the time of Henry VIII describes it as "a Hospital within the town on the Kings Bridge for poore pilgrims and wayfaring men", and in 1535 the accounts record the payment of forty six shillings and eightpence to Ralph Coker the keeper of the Hospital and his wife for being responsible "for the washing of beds for poore people". In 1538 the Shrine of St. Thomas in the Cathedral was destroyed and the

pilgrimages, which had been dying out anyway for some time, became a thing of the past. At this time the Hospital was said to be worth £43 p.a. while the Articles of Inquiry of 1546 mention that William Sworder was Master, that Sir Nicolas Champion was chantry priest being paid £10.6.8 and his fellow at Harbledown St. Nicolas was Sir George Higges who, being a Brother, only got 33s. 4d. p.a., while the keeper got twenty shillings p.a. and the woodmen who supplied fuel for the Hospital got 10s. (for the carrier) and 5s. 11d. (for the cutter). Eleven years later Archdeacon Nicolas Harpsfield holding a Visitation for Cardinal Pole was informed that eight beds were maintained for eight wayfaring men, and four for women. Master William Sworder soon after this sold both beds and furniture and the place began to fall into ruin, only being saved by the timely intervention of Archbishop Matthew Parker, who issued from Lambeth Palace in 1569 a new ordinance for its government directing that the Master must live either in his Hospital or at his Manor house of Hoathcourt in Blean, receiving £6.13.4 per annum and 12 cartloads of wood. He was to keep accounts and to maintain twelve beds for the wayfaring poor under the care of an elderly lady (as in the past), to distribute 30 pence every Friday to 30 poor folk; in time of war fourpence was to be given daily to soldiers passing through the City (on their way to the Continent presumably). Most interesting of all was the ordinance that a school for twenty boys was to be established in the chapel as well as two scholarships at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge (the Archbishop's own college).

During the next fifteen years all these careful provisions were almost nullified when one of the greedy courtiers (who proliferated in every Tudor reign), one John Farneham, a gentleman pensioner of the great Queen, secured letters patent granting him the Hospital on the grounds that the house was ruinated and failing to exercise its proper function of caring for the vagrant poor. Once again an Archbishop proved the saviour of the foundation—this time it was the redoubtable John Whitgift (founder of a famous almshouse in Croydon at the other end of the Diocese), who came to the rescue, securing in 1584 an Act of Parliament to preserve the Hospital and all its lands and revenues as an almshouse for five in-brothers and five in-sisters, having one load of wood and 26s. 8d. p.a., while there was to be a like number of out-brothers and sisters. The school was to be held in the Chapel and the schoolmaster was to read morning and evening prayer on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays weekly at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. in summer and 7 a.m. and between 4 and 5p.m. in winter unto the almsfolk and the scholars, receiving his stipend on Lady Day and Michaelmas respectively, with a summer livery coat and two loads of wood brought to him in his lodging in the Hospital without charge.

It was Whitgift who made a curious link between Hospital and City, decreeing that when a vacancy occurred in the Hospital the Mayor should be at once notified and should sumbit two names to the Master of poor folk who had dwelt at least seven years in the City or suburbs and that the Master should choose one of these, a practice that still obtains, though the out dwellers, once chosen also by the Mayor, ceased to be appointed some years ago with the coming of Supplements to Retirement Pensions. It was about this time that the Undercroft which had so long been a dormitory ceased to be used for its original purpose when little houses were built for the old ladies on the ground behind the Refectory and quarters contrived for the old men in the great building on the bridge. It became a coal cellar and remained so until comparatively recently, while the Refectory was equipped with a great fireplace and was a common hall for all those on the foundation losing one or two bays to the south and acquiring some of the present furniture. The school continued down to the middle of the nineteenth century and 794 pupils, all boys, are recorded on the school register preserved among the Hospital archives between 1816 and 1879. After the discontinuance of the school the chapel seems to have been little used until the time of Rev. A. A. Carter, who as Master restored it to its proper use in 1927. Long before this the Mastership had been annexed to the benefice of St. Alphege to which have been added the livings of All Saints, St. Margaret, and other vanished city churches, St. Peter's being united with it finally in 1959. In the last few decades many works of modernisation and restoration have been undertaken by successive Masters. In 1932 when the Rev. Gordon Wilson (twice Mayor of the City) was Master, the undercroft was restored and is now a most impressive part of the mediaeval Hospital buildings, while a good deal of work was also done in the Refectory. During the Mastership of the Reverend George Loughborough, the Sisters' houses were thoroughly restored and modernised under the direction of Mr. Anthony Swaine and when this work was finished in 1965, a complete restoration of the Master's Lodge, a very ancient and beautiful house with a large garden on the banks of the Stour opposite the Hospital, was undertaken, the Victorian wing erected in the time of Master William Temple being demolished to reveal the original Tudor façade. In the time of the present Master the ancient house of the Manor of Blean at Hoath Court and sixty acres of land adjoining have been sold to the University of Kent at Canterbury for post graduate accommodation and playing fields respectively.

As a result of this transaction and the sale of some land in Giles Lane to the R.C. Franciscan Order of Friars Minor Conventual a considerable sum of money became available early in 1970, (the

The Undercroft of Eastbridge Hospital

eighth centenary year of the martyrdom of St. Thomas of Canterbury) for the restoration and modernisation of the Hospital quarters (originally occupied by the Brothers) over the East bridge. This work began in February 1970 and was finally completed in time for dedication by the Lord Archbishop on July 31st 1971. The whole building was restored by the firm of Fullers of Faversham under the direction of Mr. Anthony Swaine, the Hospital architect, the fenestration being entirely renewed on the south face, four charming sets of dwellings completely modernised being available for occupation by the midsummer of 1971, and in place of the fifth dwelling originally there, a comfortable Common Room was created for the whole community, furnished with a generous grant from the Wootton Trust. During the restoration work on the Common Room area the removal of some modern panelling revealed the twelfth century arches of the East Bridge over the Stour and these have now been left exposed and glazed in so that those who use the Common Room can sit and see the river flowing underneath. A seventeenth century door was acquired from a church in the Weald of Kent and fitted into the lintel of the Common Room and a small platform area overlooking the river has been made into a little tiled garden for the Brothers and Sisters to use in the summer time.

Now a tour of the buildings may be worth taking at this stage of the proceedings. The Hospital is entered through a low Gothic door and after descending some steps from the street outside the visitor finds himself at once in a vaulted vestibule with the chantry chapel of Our Lady on the left, restored to use after many centuries of neglect in 1969. This has a fine XIVth arch separating the main part of the room from the sanctuary area and Abp. Sudbury's deed of 1375 can be seen in a glass case under the window. The fine beam on the altar side of the arch was placed there to strengthen the floor above in 1969, coming from the old inn "The Saracen's Head" in Burgate which was demolished for road widening that year.

On the right of the vestibule is the door leading to the quarters of the alms folk and to the Common Room and the riverside platform known as the "Parvis of St. Thomas". A map showing the position of all the almshouses in the city can be seen on the vestibule wall; (an old map showing the estates of the Hospital in Blean dating from 1635 is hung in the Common Room, but not normally shown to the public.)

A flight of steps leads down to the Undercroft which would appear to have been the first part of the Hospital buildings to be erected c. 1190 in the Transitional Gothic style of the time when the round Romanesque arch was beginning to give way to the pointed arch of Gothic type. The chalk vault is carried on sturdy pillars and the crypt is divided by walls into cubicles in which the pilgrims appear to have slept, two to each compartment with a small area

The Refectory of Eastbridge Hospital

in one corner up some steps looking over the river where no doubt they washed and perhaps drank from water hauled up in buckets from the Stour. The floor would have been strewn with rushes and rested on piles which had completely disappeared by the time of the restoration of 1932. The Refectory above is reached by a flight of steps from the vestibule and from the character of the arcade must date from the last decade of the XIIth century, being originally two bays longer than it is today, the missing bays being replaced in Tudor times by the houses built for the five in-sisters. With its imposing mediaeval roof, Gothic windows and splendid arcade resting on carved capitals, this is one of the most beautiful buildings in Canterbury, the north wall being occupied by a splendid mural showing Our Lord in glory in a mandorla between the symbols of the Four Evangelists. This is a painting of the early XIIIth century and was discovered in 1879 when the great fireplace and chimney were taken away. The mural was restored by Mrs. Eve Baker in 1962, with a grant from the Pilgrim Trust, and at the same time a coat of Archbishop Abbot, who was Primate from 1611 to 1633, was skilfully transferred from the north to the west wall of the Hall. The "Minstrels Gallery" is, alas, a modern installation made up about 1932 of Jacobean panelling from the chapel. Other furnishings include some ancient chests containing archives, including one iron chest of Tudor date with a most complicated locking mechanism, coats of arms of Archbishops, portraits of four of the Masters—John Lewis, the antiquary, 1719-46; Archdeacon Battely, 1688-1708; John Bowes Bunce, 1823-1850; and William Backhouse (Archdeacon of Canterbury),* 1777-1789—as well as some old refectory tables, a handsome benefaction board and hanging candelabra (both of XVIIIth century date), a fine old press, which now houses the chapel vestments and frontals, and a permanent exhibition in glass cases of documents of interest belonging to the Hospital. At the western side is an aisle which leads to the five dwellings of the Brothers and Sisters, each of whom has a sitting room, bedroom, bathroom and kitchen. These were most probably built in the second half of the XVIth century and were repaired in the reign of Charles II with a bequest from Archbishop Sheldon. An inscription over the door from the Refectory saying that they were built in the time of Archdeacon Battely should surely read that they were rebuilt or improved. (He left one hundred pounds in his will of 1708 to the poor of the Hospital who were to benefit from the interest.) A staircase at the north end of the Hall leads up to the chapel of Our Lady, patron saint of St. Thomas, where the Brothers and Sisters regularly attend divine service.

In this beautiful XIVth century room lit by three windows on the north side an English altar stands against the east wall on which hangs a large reconstruction of the mural in the Refectory made

several decades ago by Professor Tristram who also painted the reproduction of Eadwine the XIIth c monk artist who illuminated the famous Canterbury Psalter. There is a good Arundel print of the Lubeck altarpiece of Hans Memlinc on the west wall, some old pews, handsome carved chairs for the Archbishop and the Master, and a set of old stalls with misericords, probably early XVth work which were brought from Holy Cross Church near by in 1972 and may originally have been in some religious house in the City before the Dissolution of the monasteries. In a splendid oak cage in the roof hangs the chapel bell, once supposed to be the sanctus bell ("wagerell bell") of the Cathedral, given according to the benefaction board in the Refectory by the Dean and Chapter to the Hospital in 1585. When examined in 1968 it turned out to have been cast in 1727 when John Lewis was Master and recast again in 1842 in the time of the Rev. J. Bowes Bunce. (The XVIIIth c founder may have been Samuel Knight who cast seven of the cathedral bells in that year.)

The discovery of some movement in the north wall in 1971 necessitated some works of repair during which the remains of a doorway were discovered and exposed in the west wall, and also some traces of mural painting. A festival frontal was given at Christmas 1971 for use on the altar with the three choughs of Thomas Becket embroidered on a gold background and this can be seen on the cover of this book.

*The portrait of Archdeacon Backhouse was stolen from the hospital in December 1972 and has never been recovered.

CHAPTER II

MASTERS OF THE HOSPITAL FROM ITS FOUNDATION TO THE PRESENT DAY

On the west wall of the Upper Chapel is a handsome board with the names of the Masters from the earliest days of the Hospital to the present time painted upon it. A list of these priests and some notes about them may be worth including here. In the case of many of the early Masters the only evidence we have of their names and existence depends on documents in which they are mentioned but from the XVth century onwards many of them were well known persons, not a few rating an entry in the Dictionary of National Biography. Several were Archdeacons of Canterbury, others Residentiary or Honorary Canons or Six Preachers of the Cathedral, two were deans of Canterbury and two others Bishops while a fair sprinkling were scholars or antiquaries and one in recent times Mayor of Canterbury for two successive years. The long line of Masters begins with the opening of the XIIth century when John was King of England and Hubert Walter, a generous benefactor, Archbishop of Canterbury.

Ralph the first name to be seen on the board of Masters in the Upper Chapel was in office c. 1200. He was the nephew of St. Thomas of Canterbury himself, being the son of Becket's sister Rohesia and he is known to have held land in the vicinity of Eastbridge where later on the Blackfriars community was to have its conventual buildings. He unfortunately became involved in the celebrated dispute between the Cistercian monk Archbishop Baldwin and the Benedictine convent of Christ Church, taking the side of the cathedral priory. The enemies of the monks threw him into prison in 1188 where he was very nearly burnt to death in the town gaol when it was set on fire in the cause of the tumults that marked this unhappy quarrel. He may have been given the Mastership later in the time of Hubert Walter when the great quarrel between monks and Primate had been settled by Rome; certainly Hubert Walter was reconciled to the monks in the last years of his life and was a considerable benefactor of the Hospital. Master Ralph was in office when Cockyn's Hospital was united with Eastbridge and his appointment as "Custos" or Procurator of the Hospital was confirmed in 1203, his name appearing on a charter of Cockyn's Hospital as a witness. In another document one Peter, a clerk of the Hospital of St. Thomas is mentioned as having paid forty shillings to the convent of Christ Church and having nineteen shillings and two pence still owing while he was 'procurator of this church during the time of our exile, i.e., 1215/16.'

Eastbridge Hospital after the Restoration of 1970.

Other clerics known to have been Masters from mediaeval documents include Thomas of Wylton c. 1233. Peter c. 1236. John of Suffolk 1242 (appointed by the King during a vacancy of the See). Then follow Geoffrey 1261. Walter 1264. Hamo mentioned in 1280 in letters of Abp. Peckham, John 1284, who may have been Vicar of Wickhambreaux. William Burgess who is mentioned in the register of Abp. Winchelsea . . . John Kentyng 1321. John de Thygen 1323. Richard of Ivyngho mentioned in 1334 was rector of Hawkinge and was presented to the living of Brook by the Christ Church monks in exchange.

Roger of Rondes is mentioned in the Christ Church registers in 1342 while in the fatal year of the Black Death 1349 two masters are mentioned . . . Matthew Assheton appointed by King Edward III and William of Fareham collated in the same year by the monks of Christ Church, the see being vacant owing to the rapid deaths from the plague of successive archbishops. In 1351 yet another Master appears . . . William of Bradele and in the same year Thomas Newe of Wolton, Rector of Aldington and also of Reculver where he founded a chantry in 1354. In 1379 Robert of Bradegar was nominated as Master but refused to take possession of the Hospital, his place being taken in 1380 by John Ovyng. In 1382 John Ludham and in 1383 John Whiteclyff are named as being Masters. In 1383 also there is a record of one of the Christ Church monks, William Causton, Precentor of the monastery (and later Prior of St. Martin, Dover) being appointed Master. John Montague who was collated in August 1395 was followed by Thomas Pellycan in April 1400. He resigned in 1405 and on July 5 of that year Thomas Burton rector of Snargate took office holding the post along with the rectory of Biddenden till 1418. John Stopyndon is recorded in 1429 and John Neel in 1437 as Masters. Then come three priests who were the bearers of eminent names of contemporary archbishops, presumably owing preferment to their illustrious relations.

First comes Thomas Kemp, Prebendary of Lincoln and Archdeacon of Richmond c. 1442 doubtless a relation of the great Archbishop; then in 1445 Thomas Chicheley, great nephew of the equally celebrated Archbishop Henry Chicheley. He was a Doctor of Decrees, Archdeacon of Canterbury, Protononotary Apostolic, and Provost of Abp. Peckham's College at Wingham where he was buried in 1466.

After his death John Bourchier took the Mastership being collated in April 1467. He was probably a relation of the Cardinal Archbishop who held the See of Canterbury from 1454 to 1486, and was a Doctor of Laws and rector of Wrotham. He died in 1495. The next few Masters appear to have been men of no great consequence . . . John Fitzwarren mentioned in June 1469 (which

suggests that Bourchier did not hold office long) then Thomas Halliwell (collated May 24 1494). In Archbishop Warham's register Robert Woodward another Doctor of Decrees is mentioned as Master in 1512 and then Peter Lygham in 1535. In the ominous year 1538 when the Shrines were destroyed and the pilgrimages ceased William Sworder was installed on April 27.

During his term of office of more than twenty years the place seems to have fallen into decay and attempts to turn it into some kind of hostel for the needy were frustrated by the Master who was accused of selling the beds and generally dismantling the facilities for accommodation. Somner says he was succeeded in 1562 by William Morphett Rector of Lyminge and also of St. Andrew, Canterbury.

In 1569 the appearance of Thomas Lawse, D.C.L. ushered in a period when as often as not the Master was one of the cathedral dignitaries. Lawse was Prebendary or Canon Residentiary of the First Stall and Commissary of the Archbishop, retaining the Mastership till his death on August 9, 1594 (though he ceased to be a Canon in 1589).

Richard Rogers who became Master in 1594 was a great accumulator of offices for he was Dean of Canterbury and Bishop of Dover also. At his death on May 19, 1597 he was buried in a handsome table tomb in the Lady Chapel by the Martyrdom, which became known as the Deans' Chapel on account of the number of Deans buried there at this time.

Isaac Colfe held office only from June 18 1596 to July 15, 1597 when he died. The D.N.B. gives some details of him; he came from a well known Hugenot family of Calais who settled in Canterbury in the latter part of the century. He was an Oxford man appointed a Six Preacher in 1596 holding also the livings of Stone and Brookland in Romney Marsh. At his death he was buried in the Cathedral Chapter House.

John Boys, another Dean, from a well known East Kent family became Master on August 14, 1597 at which time he was Vicar of Betteshanger. (He became Dean of Canterbury 1619. See D.N.B.) His huge monument in the Deans' Chapel shows him as he is said to have died, at his desk in his Library surrounded by books, in cassock and gown, 1625.

In 1625 Robert Say was Proctor in Convocation and rector of Harbledown. He died in 1628 and was buried in Great Mongeham church. The Rector of that church succeeded him at Eastbridge, one John Sackette, who was a Proctor in the Convocation of 1640. He appears to have survived the Commonwealth regime as Master, dying in 1664.

Edward Aldey who succeeded him at once was Canon of the eleventh stall. His memorial tablet can be seen in the tower of St. Margaret's church with other memorials from the demolished churches of St. Andrew and St. Mary Breadman of which he was rector till his death in 1673. His successor was a great pluralist . . . Samuel Parker, canon of the second stall, archdeacon of Canterbury from 1670. He was chaplain to Abp. Sheldon and rector of Ickham. He was consecrated Bishop of Oxford in 1686 and still held all his preferments at his death in 1687. (See D.N.B.)

John Batteley, D.D. was one of the best of Masters. He was Archdeacon of Canterbury from 1688 as well as Master and Rector of Adisham and of Hunton and canon of the first stall. His portrait hangs on the Refectory wall of the Hospital of which he was a considerable benefactor. A distinguished antiquary, he died Oct 10, 1708 aged 61. (See Atheni. Cantabrig.)

John Paris, M.A. of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, was a Marlborough boy who held the livings of Hougham St. Lawrence, with St. Andrew and St. Mary Breadman from 1701 to 1709. He had only just been appointed Master when he died, aged 51, in November 1709. He was buried in St. Andrew's and a handsome memorial tablet now recalls him in St. Margaret's; on this it states that he was also Master of the Hospitals of Harbledown and St. John's. (Master Gordon Wilson in his book "With the pilgrims to Canterbury" confused him with another John Paris who was Headmaster of the Kings School from 1661 to 1665 when he moved to a teaching post in Wye, dying there in 1677.)

John Braddock, appointed in 1709, was Rector of Hackington from 1698 to 1719 and a Six Preacher from 1703; he was Master of Harbledown Hospital and a governor of St. John's. A nice marble tablet on the chancel wall of St. Stephen's commemorates him.

John Lewis who succeeded him in 1719 is commemorated by an entry in D.N.B., an article by Dr. F. J. Shirley in Arch. Cant.LXIV 1951 pages 39ff and a portrait on the walls of the Refectory. Dr. Shirley states that he became Master in 1717 (though 1719 appears a more likely date) and that he would have liked to be a Six Preacher (but he never was!). However he was Vicar of Margate St. John from 1705 to 1746 and managed to acquire the livings of Saltwood and Minster in Thanet where he is buried. He was a considerable antiquarian and a prolific writer on numerous themes.

John Sackette who succeeded him was also an antiquary and naturalist. Master 1746 to 1753 when Henry Heaton, Rector of Ivychurch and Vicar of Boughton under Blean replaced him, dying in 1777. William Backhouse, Rector of Deal and Ickham became Master in 1777 and Archdeacon of Canterbury from 1779 to 1789.

His portrait on the wall outside the Upper Chapel was acquired at Sotheby's in 1967 with a grant from the National Art Collections Fund.

William Gregory was one of the Six Preachers and Rector of St. Andrew and St. Mary Bredman; he appointed himself to the living of Blean in 1802 but died the following year and is commemorated by a tablet on the wall of the Cloisters.

Allan Fielding who followed him in 1803 was a son of the celebrated novelist. He was chaplain to Lord Nelson of the Nile, a Six Preacher and Rector of Hackington. He too appointed himself to Blean but resigned in favour of his son in 1816, the latter holding the living until 1863.

Master Fielding was known in Canterbury as the "minute gun" from his slow way of speaking and is well described in Prebendary Gilbert's memoirs.

1823. John Bowes Bunce was for many years Vicar of St. Dunstan's. His benevolent Pickwickian countenance gazes down from the Refectory wall on the tourists of today.

1850. William Temple. In his time the Mastership was united with the benefices of St. Alphege and St. Mary Northgate, the old Rectory in Palace Street being pulled down and the Rectors henceforth living in the Master's Lodge.

1887. Thomas George Crosse was an energetic priest who restored St. Alphege, later becoming Vicar of Faversham and an Honorary Canon.

1889. Alfred Butler resigned in 1905 and appointed himself to Blean.

1905. Percy Amelius Lovell Clarke, like Canon Crosse, went on to be Vicar of Faversham, Rural Dean of Ospringe and Honorary Canon. (He was a Six Preacher from 1917-24).

1923. Arthur Arnold Carter restored the Upper Chapel in 1925 to its proper use for the corporate worship of the Hospital.

1930. William Nevitt Westmore, a chaplain to the Forces in the First World War left after two years as Master to be chaplain at Chantilly in France.

1932. Stanley Gordon Francis Wilson, city councillor, twice Mayor of Canterbury was formerly rector of Thannington. During his time as Master he carried out an important restoration of the Undercroft and erected the gallery in the Refectory, finally going up to be Vicar of Blean in 1935.

1935. William Hodges, Vicar of Betteshanger with Ham from 1932, had previously had a distinguished career in the Argentine as archdeacon and Rector of the pro-Cathedral of Buenos Aires. He resigned in 1945 and was succeeded by Charles Magraw, the Vicar of Ash by Sandwich, who in turn resigned in 1959 and retired to Somerset.

1959. George William Loughborough was the first Master to hold St. Peter's with St. Alphege and St. Margaret. He had previously served in the Diocese as rector of St. Peter, Sandwich, then became director of religious education for the Diocese of Ely 1949 to 1955 and then rector of St. Luke, Old Street in the City of London. In his time the restoration of the Sisters' houses was carried out and St. Alphege Hall in King Street acquired also. He went to be Vicar of St. George, Ramsgate in 1965.

His successor Derek Ingram Hill was at the time of appointment Vicar of St. Gregory the Great in Canterbury, a Six Preacher and Proctor in Convocation. In 1969 he became Rural Dean of Canterbury and the following year an Honorary Canon. In his time the Chantry Chapel of Our Lady has been restored to worship and the Brothers' wing over the river restored and modernised.

G. W. LOUGHBOROUGH. He went to be Vicar of St. George Ramsgate in 1965 and died in 1973.

CHARLES MAGRAW retired to Somerset and died there in 1974.

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